

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
FACULTY OF ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND PHILOSOPHY OF ENGINEERING
**BACHELOR OF TECHNOLOGY HONOURS IN ENGINEERING/
BACHELOR OF INDUSTRIAL STUDIES HONOURS/
BACHELOR OF SOFTWARE ENGINEERING HONOURS- LEVEL 3**
FINAL EXAMINATION (OBT) – 2020/2021
LLJ3245 INTRODUCTION TO LAWS OF SRI LANKA
DURATION – TWO HOURS



DATE: 19th of January 2022

TIME: 9.30 am- 11.30 am

Total Number of questions: 06

Answer four (04) questions only

Candidates will be penalized for illegible handwriting

(1) (a) Mahesh is an engineering student studying at the Distance Learning University. He decides to choose the course 'Introduction to Law' as an elective course in his first year. Mahesh's friend Sudarshan asks him about the relevance of learning law as Mahesh's discipline is entirely a different one. To find an answer to this question Mahesh speaks to Dinuka, a second-year student who has successfully taken the same course in the previous year.

Assume you are Dinuka. Giving examples from at least three (03) areas of law that you have learnt, explain Mahesh why learning law is relevant to individuals even if they are specializing in other disciplines.

(15 Marks)

(b) '...The Sri Lankan legal system is a plural system'.

Do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer.

(10 Marks)

(Total 25 Marks)

(2) Advise the following parties regarding the court of law, they should refer their cases. In your answer, you should explain the reasons for your advice.

- (I) Shalini contemplates filing a divorce application against her husband as she discovers him engaged in an extramarital affair.
- (II) Marthelis sets fire on some garbage in his garden and leaves the compound to have a cup of tea. The fire extends to the neighborhood and causes damage to Gabriel's house. Gabriel demands compensation for the damage.
- (III) Justin is an employee of ABC Television Networks and has served the company for eight years. One day the manager of the company informs Justin that his services are no longer needed. Justin seeks remedy for wrongful termination.
- (IV) The Education Ministry decides to make English the compulsory medium of education in all Advance Level classes of the country. Prabath and Jananathan who are two civil society activists think this decision is a violation of the rights of the citizenry.
- (V) The police finds the dead body of Amali. Through investigations the police discovers that her husband can be suspected for murder. The chief of police seeks to initiate further action against the husband.

(5×5=25 Marks)

(3) (a) 'The concept 'Rule of Law' has been interpreted in different ways by different scholars. In the absence of any recognized legal definition of the notion, this differential interpretation has created a sense of ambiguity regarding the meaning of the term'.

Critically discuss the statement by providing examples.

(15 marks)

(b) Explain to what extent the Sri Lankan Constitution has provided provisions to safeguard the independence of the judiciary. Why do you think the independence of the judiciary is important for democratic governance?

(10 marks)

(Total = 25 marks)

(4) (a) Offer and acceptance are the main elements of a contract. Do you agree with this statement? Explain. (10 Marks)

(b) Explain the legal consequences of the following scenarios.

(I) Dhanushka who is a university student befriends Bhagya studying at a leading girl's school. Bhagya is 13 years old. Dhanushka convinces Bhagya to sell her valuable necklace gifted by her parents for a small amount of money.

(II) Sarala is an employee of a company owned by Mr. Lopez. Sarala owns a unique piece of furniture inherited by her grandparents. Mr. Lopez who is interested in antique dealings offers Sarala to buy the piece of furniture promising her a promotion. After knowing about this transaction, Sarala's father becomes agitated.

(III) Kithmini visits Hotel Benilia for a vacation. She checks into her room and after refreshing leaves out for coffee. Upon return she realizes that some of her valuables kept in the room are missing. The Hotel management refuses to take any responsibility. They refer to a notice displayed on the backside of the room door which states that the hotel holds no responsibility for any loss of valuables or damages to goods.

(5×3=15 marks)

(Total = 25 marks)

(5) (a) Discuss the constitutional and legislative provisions available in Sri Lanka for the protection of the environment.

(10 marks)

(b) What are the mechanisms available under the Industrial Disputes Act no. 43 of 1950 to resolve industrial disputes?

(15 marks)

(Total = 25 marks)

(6) Write short notes on the following.

- (a) Elements of a crime
- (b) Right to information in Sri Lanka
- (c) Concept of 'Supremacy of the parliament'
- (d) Invitation to treat
- (e) Polluter pays principle

(5×5= 25 marks)

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